



Brownfields 2005 Grant Fact Sheet

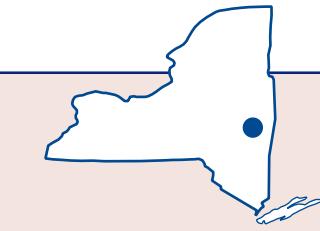
Albany, NY

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The City of Albany was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. Since 1950, Albany's population has declined from approximately 130,000 to 93,919. To reverse its economic misfortunes, the city endeavors to make parcels of land located in industrial- or commercial-zoned areas available for development. The city is targeting eight census tracts, primarily centered around and to the east of the downtown area, which encompass approximately 4.4 square miles and are home to 25,000 residents. These tracts contain a mixture of commercial and industrial properties, and old and generally poorly maintained houses. Many of the parcels may contain contaminants from historic urban fill, dry cleaning operations, repair facilities, and



Assessment Grant

New
2005

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Albany for a brownfields assessment grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to perform up to four Phase I and up to three Phase II environmental site assessments, review remediation alternatives, and develop remediation plans for sites in neighborhoods in and around downtown Albany. Funds also will be used to conduct community-wide meetings to present the results of the investigations and future plans.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 2 Brownfields Team

212-637-4314

[http://www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/
brownfields/](http://www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/brownfields/)

Grant Recipient: City of Albany, NY
518-434-5265

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

industrial/commercial operations. The minority population of these areas ranges from 43 to 84 percent, and 36 to 53 percent of families live below the poverty level. Assessment and cleanup of these properties will help the city evaluate and reduce the potential exposure of the targeted community to contaminants. It also will enable the commercial revitalization of the area, thereby improving local employment opportunities.